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VOLUME XXVIII. No. 179

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

WILSON'S GARDEN. Broadway.—The Duke's Men.

LAMAR KENNY'S THEATRE. Broadway.—The Duke's Men.

NEW HAVEN THEATRE. Broadway.—The Duke's Men.

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Spear, of the Eleventh Pennsylvania cavalry, completely destroyed the bridge over the South Anna, captured General W. F. H. Lee, Colonel Hearable, four captains, five lieutenants and one hundred privates. He brought in thirty-five wagons, with six mules each, and one hundred and fifty mules in addition, and from seventy-five to one hundred horses. He took fifteen thousand dollars in Confederate bonds, just issued from an agent of the authorities at Richmond, all public property. No private property has been touched. Colonel Spear's loss is three killed and eight wounded.

We give to-day a full and most interesting account of the late capture of the Caleb Cushing by the gallant Portlanders, including a history of the Tacony and her exploits, her officers and her fate. The steamship Blackstone, which went in search of the Tacony, returned to this port yesterday. She found no trace of the privateer, but fell in with a British bark on the 22d, which had been boarded by the Tacony on the same day. The weather was foggy, and thus the Blackstone may have passed the privateer on her track without observing her.

The news from General Rosecrans' department is encouraging. A despatch to the Nashville Union says that a force of federal troops captured three thousand of Bragg's rebels on Saturday passing through Hoover's Gap. Colonel Wilder's mounted infantry made a splendid dash into Manchester, Tennessee, capturing a large number of rebels.

The Chattanooga Rebel of Friday says that at that time the firing at Vicksburg was going on with greater vigor than ever. We have nothing new from that quarter, except from the above source, later than the 21st, by way of Cairo.

Our latest detailed news from Fort Hudson comes by the New Orleans steamer Geo. Cromwell yesterday, and dates the 20th inst. Another attempt was then about to be made on the works of the enemy, which seem to be regarded as impregnable. Our correspondence contains highly interesting accounts of General Banks' recent movements there.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

The Westcott of Columbus, and the Volksfreund of Cincinnati—the leading democratic German papers in Ohio—refuse to support Vallandigham. The Horicon (Wisconsin) Railroad has been purchased, at auction, by ex-Governor Hunt and Russell Sage, Esq., for \$370,000.

The Saratoga Sentinel says:—"We have never seen so many young men visitors here—in proportion to the company—as at the present time. They probably visit Saratoga Springs to keep out of the way of the enrolling office."

General Ben. Loan is now in St. Joseph, Missouri, as a private citizen, he having been mustered out of service. He will probably remain quiet, unless an emergency should arise demanding his services again in the field, until the meeting of Congress, when he will take his seat as the representative of the Seventh district of Missouri.

S. R. Murdoch's cashmere mill, situated in South Coventry, Connecticut, was burnt on the 27th instant, together with a good share of its stock. Loss quite heavy. The building was insured for \$9,000 and the stock for \$12,000. It was a fine stone mill, and was doing a large business.

Cotton advanced on Saturday to 60c, mostly 60c for middlings, with sales of 5,100 bales reported. There was less activity in breadstuffs, at in some instances, dropping prices, and in provisions, which were irregular in value. Coffee was less freely purchased, while sugars were in lively demand, and molasses and tea were in fair request. Whiskey was quiet but steady. Petroleum was unusually active and was higher. Hay was plenty, and selling freely at rather easier prices. Tallow was in less demand. The freight market was quiet. The movements in other articles were generally moderate.

The stock market was generally better on Saturday; the chief excitement was on Harlem, which rose 1/2 per cent. Hudson River and Erie were also strong. Gold was dull at about 144 1/2. Exchange 127 1/2 to 128. Money was in good supply at about 7 per cent for all loans.

Cheering News from Washington.—General Hooker Retired and General George G. Meade at the Head of the Army of the Potomac.

It is with no ordinary feelings of gratification that we announce to our readers this morning the retirement of General Hooker and the appointment of Major General George G. Meade, late of the Fifth army corps, to the command of the Army of the Potomac.

With regard to the qualifications of this officer for this supremely important position at this crisis, the reader will be amply satisfied from the simple facts of his military history, which will be found in the special biographical sketch given elsewhere in this paper. Distinguished for his good and gallant conduct in the Mexican war, General Meade, in the peninsular and Maryland campaigns of General McClellan, and in the late eventful Rappahannock campaign of General Burnside and General Hooker, has still added to his high reputation as a brave, skilful and capable military leader. His merits are approved by the officers of the Army of the Potomac, and we are assured that this appointment as their Commander-in-Chief on the field will be hailed with unqualified satisfaction by the soldiers of every State and of every regiment of the army. As we understand this appointment, in another sense, it is a compromise which will be satisfactory not only to the old soldiers of McClellan, but to his friends outside of the army; for, according to our information, Gen. Meade has not been mixed up and is not the creation of any political faction, but the independent professional soldier, who has won his claims to distinction and his present promotion by his sword.

We have no inclination now to deal harshly with Gen. Hooker. In the all important fact that he has been relieved at his own request we recognize an act of patriotism on his part which disarms us of any desire to reproduce the evidence of his experience at the head of the Army of the Potomac against him. We congratulate him, as well as the country, on the patriotic considerations which have induced him to retire in season to enable his successor to move forward without delay upon the enemy; and the country will feel grateful to President Lincoln that an officer whose record and reputation give every assurance of success is now at the head of the army upon which the safety of the national capital and the fate of the rebellion depend.

The Exciting News from Harri-burg.—The Rebels on the Susquehanna—What Next?

The events of yesterday on the western side of the Susquehanna river, between Harri-burg and Columbia, ought to be sufficient to bring within the next three days a hundred thousand armed Pennsylvanians to the rescue. Philadelphia, from her population of half a million, ought to be able to report within twenty-four hours the mustering within her limits of at least twenty-five thousand armed men. All the stupid and embarrassing formalities of red tape, as between county and State, and State and federal authorities, should be cast to the winds, and the people of every county of the Commonwealth, trusting to the general organization and the disposition of their forces by the Governor and by Gen. Couch, should send forward their troops by regiments, battalions and companies as fast as they can be armed and equipped from their own resources, not for thirty days or sixty days, but for the expulsion of the invading army of the rebellion.

The federal administration and General Meade are now occupied in covering approaches by which this daring rebel army may advance upon Washington or Baltimore; and, if General Meade's army amounted to half a million of men, we conjecture that it could not for several days to come be marched over the interval between its present lines of occupation and the army of Lee to the deliverance of Pennsylvania.

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It appears to us that the cunning rebel General Lee has been deliberately widening the distance between the two armies, in order, first, to draw our Army of the Potomac as far away from Washington as possible before giving battle; and secondly, to prey as long as possible meantime upon the rich counties and towns of Pennsylvania between the Potomac and the Susquehanna. It therefore devolves chiefly upon Pennsylvania, for the present, to arrest the advances of the enemy within her borders. New York has sent to her support some fifteen thousand men or more of our well trained and well equipped State militia. Pennsylvania, acting with similar energy, ought now on her own account to have fifty thousand soldiers on the Susquehanna.

The ultimate designs of Lee are still the subject of conjecture. We cannot believe that beyond a paltry detachment or two he contemplates any military operations east of the Susquehanna. We guess that he is holding the bulk of his army in a position from which he may advance against or retreat from General Meade, as the occasion may invite or require; and that, while busy in collecting supplies in Pennsylvania, he is not the man to neglect his lines of escape—that, in fact, he is not the man to put an unfordable river or a powerful hostile army in his rear for a haphazard dash upon Philadelphia or Baltimore. We believe, in fact, that in advancing to the Susquehanna the forces of Lee have reached their Northern terminus, and that within a day or two his real intentions will be developed in some other direction. He has lost too much time to attempt the passage of the Susquehanna in force, and too much time to move down in search of the great army on his flank. Let Pennsylvania attend to his little detachments of foragers for a few days, and prepare for a vigorous support in the rear to the movements of General Meade from Washington, and the end of this rebel invasion will be the end of the rebellion.

The Army of the Potomac, under General Meade, will advance with new life and vigor, and with reinforcements which will enable him to baffle and defeat all the movements of the enemy in any direction. Let Pennsylvania, meantime, do her duty in behalf of her own people, and New York will not be wanting in additional contributions of soldiers to make sure work of the audacious invader of a neighboring State.

THE ENTERPRISE OF SECRETARY WELLES.—When the rebel iron-clad Atlanta was captured by our monitors a novel torpedo was found attached to her by a boom projecting from her bow. This device was pronounced by our naval officers an improvement upon the torpedo affixed to our monitors. Now, about a year ago one of the inventors of this style of torpedo laid his plans before Secretary Welles, and offered to attach it to any of our naval vessels for twenty-five hundred dollars. The inventor was informed, however, that the Department had no money to expend for such purposes. This shows the great enterprise of Secretary Welles. But, besides this, the inventor is very curious to know how the rebels obtained his plans. He never communicated them to the rebel leaders, and cannot imagine how they could have been secured, except through somebody in our Navy Department; and Secretary Welles is of course too sharp to permit that. We suppose the inventor will have to wait a very long while for this information.

DISAFFECTION TO THE CONFEDERACY IN NORTH CAROLINA.—For some time there have been reports of disaffection to the Southern confederacy in North Carolina; but it is now stated that it has taken an organized shape, and that the State troops have had three engagements with the Confederate forces near Wilmington. The infection so spread among the North Carolina regiments in the Confederate service that it was found necessary on the part of the rebel Secretary of War to remove them from the State and send in their place Confederate troops from South Carolina and Georgia. It is also remarkable that the desertions from the North Carolina regiments are very numerous of late. There is thus a bright spot in the Southern sky, which may grow wider and wider. A little yeast may leaven the whole mass.

WHAT DO THE REBELS WANT TO COME NORTH FOR?—Our Harri-burg correspondent informs us that the Confederate soldiers state that they are coming North to hold peace meetings. Let the copperheads, and all others whom it may concern, take notice of the fact.

THE MOVEMENTS AND STRATEGY OF THE REBELS IN PENNSYLVANIA.—The progress of the rebels in their advance upon Harri-burg and their raid into the interior of Pennsylvania has been somewhat slow. The news of this morning and a glance at our map, published elsewhere, will, however, satisfy any person that they contemplate striking a blow in that vicinity that will require time to recover from. They have guarded well their flanks at every step, and have secured several valuable strategic points, important to them if they contemplate further invasion in that quarter, or merely the capture of Harri-burg and the cutting off communication with Baltimore and Washington from the West and North by that route.

The Cumberland valley, through which the rebels have been working their way towards Harri-burg, is one of the richest valleys in the world, and under a high state of cultivation. The surface of the country is level, and there is no point between Chambersburg and Harri-burg where our forces could make a stand without the danger of having one or both of their flanks turned by the enemy. The Blue Ridge Mountains lie along the northwestern border of the valley; but there are numerous gaps and roads over that range, making it very convenient for a cavalry force to dodge around undiscovered into the rear of our troops. The result is that our small forces in advance have been compelled to gradually fall back to prevent capture by a flank movement. The rebels are undoubtedly taking advantage of this circumstance, and are taking in a large stock of supplies from the storehouses of the farmers in the valley. But that they contemplate more than merely a foraging expedition is evident from the fact that they have driven our pickets in and that a battle is being fought at Harri-burg.

The Movements and Strategy of the Rebels in Pennsylvania.

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Sterrett's Gap is on the western slope of the Blue Mountain range and near the Duncannon Iron Works. The mountains in that vicinity come down almost perpendicular to the banks of the river. A passage for the Central Railroad had to be cut through even to find room for that road to pass along on the banks of the river. If the rebels succeed in driving our pickets and forces from that quarter they will then hold a point that will almost isolate the eastern from the western portion of the State. If they find themselves unable to hold it, a few hours spent in shelling and blasting will place obstructions upon the Pennsylvania Railroad that it will take weeks to remove. It is through this pass of the mountains that all communication between the eastern section of the State and the Juniata valley, as well as that portion of the State west of the Alleghenies, is kept up. Now that the rebels hold the communication through the Cumberland valley with Bedford and the west over the old State road there is no other route open, except a long circuitous one through the upper valley of the Susquehanna near Williamsport. If the rebels have driven in our pickets near Duncannon they have shown a knowledge of the country and a disposition to make the most of their raid in the way of damaging railroad communication. The rebel forces at Sterrett's Gap are also in easy striking distance of the aqueduct near the junction of the Juniata and Susquehanna canals, and also but a few miles from two important railroad bridges across the Susquehanna.

The rebel forces at Gettysburg appear, on the other hand, to have followed the railroad down to Hanover, and thence to the junction with the Northern Central Railroad, a few miles below York, which place our later telegrams state they have captured. This completely cuts off communication between Harri-burg and Baltimore and Washington, except by the way of Philadelphia and Havre de Grace. In fact, that is the only railroad communication now left between Washington and the North. It is yet uncertain whether the rebel forces at Hanover Junction intend to move from York and across to Columbia and strike the Pennsylvania Railroad near Lancaster, or to follow the Northern Central Railroad down from the Junction towards Baltimore. It is already stated that the bridge at Columbia is in flames. The bluffs on the opposite side of the river at Harri-burg furnish an excellent place for rifle pits and intrenchments for the defence of the city from that direction; but should the enemy contemplate a raid into the Lebanon valley and the northern part of the State, and the forces of the Susquehanna above and below Harri-burg be low enough for their passage, the city would be flanked. We imagine, however, that all of these forays are by this time well guarded by our troops, and we trust that sufficient force has been sent to Sterrett's Gap and Duncannon to prevent the rebels obtaining possession of these points long enough to damage the railroads to any extent. With the fords and that point secured a small force on the opposite side of the river can prevent the capture of Harri-burg, and thus stay the progress of the invaders until a sufficient force is gathered to drive them from the State or destroy them. It will be thus seen that matters in the Susquehanna are not as happy as some people would have us believe. If, however, the administration have given Gen. Smith, who is now in command of the fortifications at Harri-burg, sufficient authority to act, we have full confidence that the rebels will not be able to continue their raid on this side of the river anywhere in that vicinity.

THE CONDITION OF THE PARK BARRACKS.—We made a statement in our city news a few days ago that the Park Barracks were in a very filthy condition. We received a communication on the subject on Saturday from the Superintendent, which we publish to-day. Yesterday we received another communication on behalf of the soldiers of the Twenty-first National Guard, which we also publish, to the effect that so abominable was the state of the barracks that if they were to be ordered to quarter there they would go home—that the most splendid fare they could get would not tempt them to try a sojourn there. From various other sources we likewise have the same testimony. Under these circumstances the best thing the Superintendent can do is to remedy the evil by putting the barracks in a cleanly condition. Let him have them scoured out and freshly whitewashed, and if he does not do so the Common Council should abolish the barracks altogether. In their present state they are of no possible use to the soldiers, while at the same time they are a nuisance to the city.

INNOVATIONS IN PENNSYLVANIA.—Our city is full of Pennsylvanians. The trains and steamboats, it is said, are crowded with them. What are they doing here? Are they to take the places vacated by our gallant soldiers who have gone to defend the Keystone State?

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THE CREWS OF VESSELS CAPTURED BY THE TACONY.

The pilot boat Wanderer, of Newburyport, has arrived back with the crews of the schooner Ada, Wanderer and Archer, captured by the Tacony, and put on board the ship Stateline, which vessel is now in sight bound to Boston.

The Rebel Privateers and the Navy Department.

While there is every reason to believe that the formidable privateer Tacony has been destroyed and her crew captured, thus ridding our northern coasts of a dangerous enemy, the rebels are still exercising a most destructive mastery of the seas in that quarter. There are at the present moment three other privateers—one of them a steamer—lying off the Bay of Fundy, ready for mischief among our fishing squadron. What that steamer is no one knows—whether she is a new vessel from England, or the privateer Georgia, which has worked her way up from Southern waters. Certain it is that the vessels navigating these waters are in imminent danger of capture, and in fact are being taken and burned every day. There is a vessel—the Shawmut—due here to-day having on board the crews of four vessels destroyed by the enemy, and we may hear at any moment of the destruction of numerous others.

While this scourge is sweeping our coast what is the Navy Department doing? It is true the government has sent a good many vessels to sea in search of the privateers; but many of them are sailing vessels. Now there are lying idle at the wharves of this city at least six splendid steamers, and others of lesser note, which the government could have by applying for them. There are the Atlantic, Baltic, Illinois, Empire City, Ariel and Ocean Queen, all fast sailers, all capable of carrying a heavy armament and a full crew; but it is that, owing to some petty piques and jealousies on the part of the department or its agents—for some reason or other most discreditable to the government—these fine ships will not be employed. In themselves these vessels would form a navy sufficient to demolish the privateers and afford protection to our merchant marine. In the case of the Baltic and Atlantic, the government refuses to charter them unless the merchants of New York guarantee the war risk—that is, agree to pay the owners their value if they should be lost. This is an extraordinary compact to demand, and we believe, is without precedent. Why should not the government accept the whole responsibility in a crisis like this, if it is disposed to assume any? Why should a number of individual merchants be required to indemnify the government for a loss sustained in the most important public service which it is now called upon to perform? It is true that the New York merchants have manifested an apathy and indifference in this matter of the privateers which is as unfortunate as it is inexplicable. The example set by Boston, and the still more brilliant exploit of the people of Portland, which entitles them to immortal honor and puts the lethargy of the Navy Department to shame, should teach our merchants a lesson as to the duty and necessity of self-protection. Pennsylvania, too, might learn from the Portlanders the fruition of the old Greek proverb, "that God helps those who help themselves." If the spirit which animated the citizens of Portland was prevalent in Pennsylvania there would not be an invader on her soil to-day bombarding her capital and striking terror into her people.

The protection of the coasts should not be left solely to private enterprise and private valor. The government should charter the fleet of magnificent steamers now lying idle in this harbor and send them to sea at once, before any more disasters occur.

LOSS TO PENNSYLVANIA FROM THE INVASION.—It is estimated that the loss now sustained and that which will be necessarily sustained hereafter, even under the most favorable circumstances, by the people of Pennsylvania, in consequence of the rebel invasion, will amount to fifty millions of dollars. The damage will be greatly enhanced if the Dutch farmers continue to run away. By a spirited resistance the injury would be lessened and the invaders the sooner driven back.

DISCIPLINE IN THE SOUTHERN ARMY.—The order of General Ewell, threatening to punish every citizen of Chambersburg who should sell any spirituous drinks to his troops, is another evidence of the superior discipline in the Southern army, which makes it the formidable machine it is. The discipline in the Union army is extremely loose, and the evil consequences are seen more and more every day. Ardent drink has done more to demoralize both officers and men than any other influence.

IMPORTANT FROM ROSECRANS' DEPARTMENT

Capture of Three Thousand Rebels.